

Chapter 19

Government and Politics

Chapter Outline

- Defining the State
- Power and Authority
- Theories of Power
- Government: Power and Politics in a Diverse Society
- The Military

Defining the State

- Abstract concept that includes institutions that represent power in society:
 - government
 - legal system
 - police
 - Military

Power and Authority

- *Power* is the ability of one person or group to exercise influence and control over others.
- *Authority* is power that is perceived by others as legitimate, emerging from the exercise of power and the belief of constituents that the power is legitimate.
- *Coercive power* is achieved through force, often against the will of the people being forced.

Weber: Types of Authority

Type of Authority	Example
Traditional	monarchy
Charismatic	John F. Kennedy
Rational-legal	legal system of authority established by rules and regulations

Growth of Bureaucratic Government

- According to Weber, rational–legal authority leads to bureaucracies.
- Bureaucratic power comes from legitimacy of the rules.

Theories of Power in Society

Theory	The State
Pluralism	As representing diverse and multiple groups in society
Power Elite	As representing the interests of a small, but economically dominant class

Theories of Power in Society

Theory	The State
Autonomous State	As perpetuating its own form and interests
Feminist Theory	As masculine in its organization and values - based on rational values and a patriarchal structure

Theories of Power in Society

Theory	Political Power
Pluralism	Derived from activities of interest groups and diffused throughout the public
Power Elite	Held by the ruling class

Theories of Power in Society	
Theory	Political Power
Autonomous State	Resides in the organizational structure of state institutions
Feminist Theory	Emerges from the dominance of men over women

Theories of Power in Society	
Theory	Social Conflict
Pluralism	The competition between diverse groups that mobilize to promote their interests
Power Elite	Stems from the domination of elites over less powerful groups

Theories of Power in Society	
Theory	Social Conflict
Autonomous State	Develops between states, as each vies to uphold its own interests
Feminist Theory	Results from the power men have over women

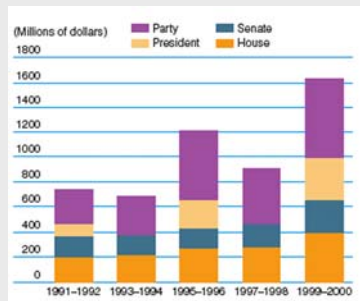
Theories of Power in Society

Theory	Social Order
Pluralism	The result of equilibrium created by multiple groups balancing their interests
Power Elite	Comes from interlocking directorates created by linkages among the few who control institutions

Theories of Power in Society

Theory	Social Order
Autonomous State	The result of administrative systems that work to maintain the status quo
Feminist Theory	Results from patriarchal control that men have over social institutions

Political Fundraising Trends



The Power Elite Model

- The power elite model originated in the work of Karl Marx.
- According to Marx, the dominant or “ruling” class controls all the major institutions in society.
- The state itself is simply an instrument by which the ruling class exercises its power.

The Autonomous State Model

- Interprets the state as its own major constituent.
- From this perspective, the state develops interests of its own, which it seeks to promote independent of outside interests and the public that it allegedly serves.
- Autonomous state theory sees the state as a network of administrative and policing organizations, each with its own interests such as maintenance of its complex bureaucracies and protection of its special privileges.

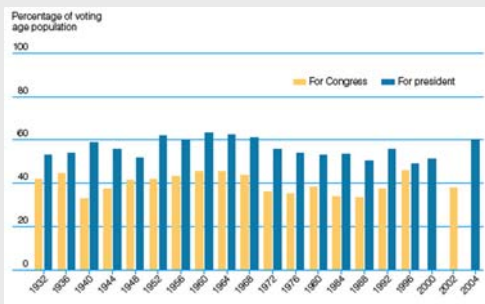
Voter Participation in Democratic Nations



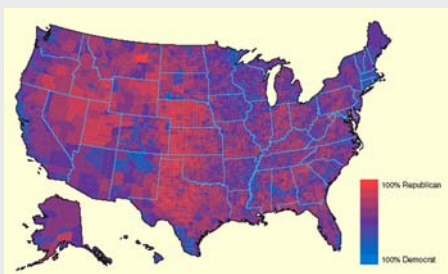
Polling Question

- Have you registered to vote?
 - A.) Yes
 - B.) No
 - C.) Not eligible

Voter Turnout in U.S. Elections



The 2004 Elections



Polling Question

- Did you vote in the last election?
- A.) Yes
- B.) No
- C.) Not eligible

Political Participation

- U.S. has one of the lowest voter turnouts among democratic nations.
- Black Americans are much more likely to vote when directly approached by a party representative.

Political Participation

- Women are more likely than men to identify and vote as Democrats and to have liberal views.
- The gender gap is manifest in women's views on peace keeping, gun control, and compassion issues.

2004 Presidential Election: Who Voted How?

By Gender	George W. Bush	John Kerry
Men	51%	48%
Women	48	51

2004 Presidential Election: Who Voted How?

By Race	George W. Bush	John Kerry
White	59%	41%
Black	11	88
Hispanic/Latino	44	53
Latino	44	56

2004 Presidential Election: Who Voted How?

By education	George W. Bush	John Kerry
No diploma	49%	50%
High school graduate	52	47
Some college	54	46
College degree	52	46
Postgraduate degree	44	55

2004 Presidential Election

By income	George W. Bush	John Kerry
Less than \$15K	36%	63%
\$15K–\$30K	42	57
\$30K–\$50K	49	50
\$50K–\$75K	56	43
\$75K–\$100K	55	45
\$100K–\$150K	57	42
\$150K–\$200K	58	42

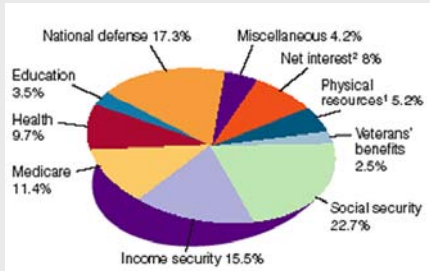
A Representative Government?

House of Representatives	1981	1991	2005
Men	416	407	370
Women	19	28	65
African Americans	17	25	40
Asian/Pacific Islanders	3	3	3
Hispanics	6	11	23
Native Americans	0	0	1

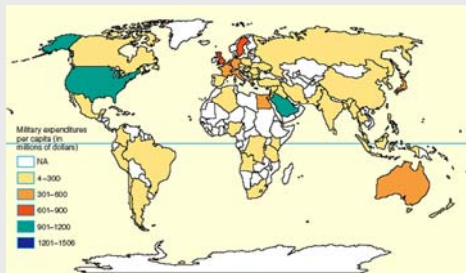
A Representative Government?

Senate	1981	1991	2005
Men	98	98	86
Women	2	2	14
African Americans	0	0	1
Asian/Pacific Islanders	3	2	2
Hispanics	0	0	2
Native Americans	0	0	0

Military Spending and Federal Budget Outlays



Military Expenditures Per Capita



The Military

- The military is the largest single employer in the U.S.
 - 3 million men and women serve in the U.S. military.
- 34% of military personnel are minorities
 - 20% African American
 - 8% Hispanic
 - 6% other racial minorities

Women in the Military

- Almost 200,000 women are on active duty, with an additional 151,000 in the reserves.
 - Air Force - 18%
 - Army - 15%
 - Navy - 13 %
 - Marines - 6%

Quick Quiz

1. An abstract concept that includes all those institutions that represent official power in society, such as the government and its legal system, is referred to as:
 - a. social order
 - b. bureaucracy
 - c. the government
 - d. the state

Answer: d

- An abstract concept that includes all those institutions that represent official power in society, such as the government and its legal system, is referred to as **the state**.

2. Power that is achieved through force, often against the will of the people being forced is called:

- a. legitimate power
- b. lawless power
- c. authoritarian power
- d. coercive power

Answer: d

- Power that is achieved through force, often against the will of the people being forced is called **coercive power**.

3. A type of formal organization characterized by an authority hierarchy, a clear division of labor, explicit rules, and impersonality, is referred to as:
- a. a rational-legal organization
 - b. a voluntary organization
 - c. an authoritarian organization
 - d. a bureaucracy

Answer: d

- A type of formal organization characterized by an authority hierarchy, a clear division of labor, explicit rules, and impersonality, is referred to as **a bureaucracy**.

4. "Policy should improve access to health care for minority racial and ethnic groups, the poor, and women." This statement reflects:
- a. epidemiology
 - b. conflict theory
 - c. symbolic interaction
 - d. functionalism

Answer: b

- "Policy should improve access to health care for minority racial and ethnic groups, the poor, and women." This statement reflects **conflict theory**.

5. _____ is the ability of one person or group to exercise influence and control over others.

Answer: Power

- **Power** is the ability of one person or group to exercise influence and control over others.
